

My dear Sir,

I cannot help answering
your last kind letter, and hope you will not
grudge the postage, as I am confined, and
seldom see members of parliament.

Nothing could give me greater
pleasure than to see you here, and I partly
write to inform you that I am about to move
to Tunbridge Place, New Road, a pleasant
and healthy situation. I wish, if you can,
you would fix your residence with me. The
house is large and roomy, as wanted for my
books and maps.

Between old friends I may
whisper in your ear, that want of money
prevents my much wished for journey to Scotland.
I cannot bear the sea, nor a stage coach,
and as I travel very often I always take
a post-chaise, so that £100 would be required
for the journey. You mention my fame and
pursue — of the former I have enough — but in
the latter is nothing. My money goes as it
comes, and like a true literary character I
am bound to be poor. I have nothing but
such

such small talents as God has given me and
all my estate is under my lot. I sometimes
shudder at its age and helplessness, and
wish I had been more prudent, or had some
literary situation as a resource. A large
house is indispensable for my books and
maps, and a large house implies large taxes,
servants, amusements, &c. &c. It is an comfort
to know that I suppose my works give bread
to 40 or 50 families of printers, engravers &c.
yet I myself may probably die of vexation
like Goldsmith. But Job says, "I will speak before I die."

I believe my works in general
are without very correct and classical, and
I should be glad if you would point out what
you think to as requiring correction. The
large compilation I merely send my name to,
as a means of subsistence, not of reputation.
If you want classical correctness and reputation
look at my recent Poetology, the labour of
many years.

Pray give my compliments to the lady
called Ants Reeky, and express my long-aching
wishes to see her in her new gown.

Yours most faithfully
19 March 1812 J. Pinkerton

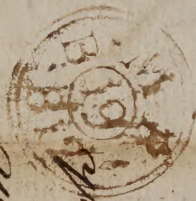
13 Chancery Street
Russell Square.

An answer sent in April by the hands of
James Clapperton

John Pinkerton

London 19 March

1812



John Young Esq.
North Castle Street
Edinburgh

